

TRIO Student Support Services Fall 2021 Newsletter

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

A Return to Campus - Fall 2021



As we know, the months between March 2020 and August 2021 were filled with devastating losses for the world. Few escaped the damage cause by the Covid-19 pandemic. Many were directly impacted through the sudden loss of a loved one. Achieving a college degree during this time appeared to be an exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, challenge.

Prior to the sudden pivot to working and learning from home, it often seemed that a college degree would provide the certainty of a promising future. But facing losses on multiple fronts could no longer make this a foregone conclusion – perhaps never more clearly than for those college students who were first in their family to earn an undergraduate degree.

Despite the difficulties they faced, TRIO SSS students at CSUSM continued to persevere. The combined effort of a determined student population, supported by a dedicated staff providing unique programming that met students “where they were” in a virtual format, TRIO SSS students continued to demonstrate incredible fortitude. The result of their resolve, despite catastrophic circumstances surrounding them speaks of incredible resiliency and grit. TRIO SSS students proved that they had a desire to keep moving forward “no matter what”.

As we start the 2021-2022 academic year, the outcomes from the previous 18 months have given us reason to feel inspired and leaves us remaining hopeful. Not only did the students in the TRIO SSS program perform exceedingly well, *they met and surpassed all Department of Education grant requirements*. Even more impressive: the performed BETTER in all areas than the last pre-pandemic year. We could not be prouder.

Outcome	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
	(pre-pandemic)	(6 mo. pandemic)	(12 mo. pandemic)
6-year grad rate	76%	79.5%	79%
Retention	92.5%	97%	97%
Good Academic Standing	95%	98%	97.5%
# of grads	46	48	58
	(21.5% of all active)	(23% of all active)	(28.25% of all active)

TRIO SSS AWARD WINNERS

2021 FACULTY/STAFF ADVOCATE AWARD WINNER



Dr. Juan Alvarez Jr. is a Psychologist in Student Health and Counseling Services at CSUSM. Dr. Alvarez is passionate about college mental health and has worked in college mental health centers in Washington, Idaho, Colorado, and California. He specializes in providing multi-culturally competent services to students.

Dr. Juan Alvarez, has been a strong advocate for TRIO SSS students and we are delighted to honor him with this award.

Congratulations Dr. Alvarez Jr.

2021 SENIOR EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNER



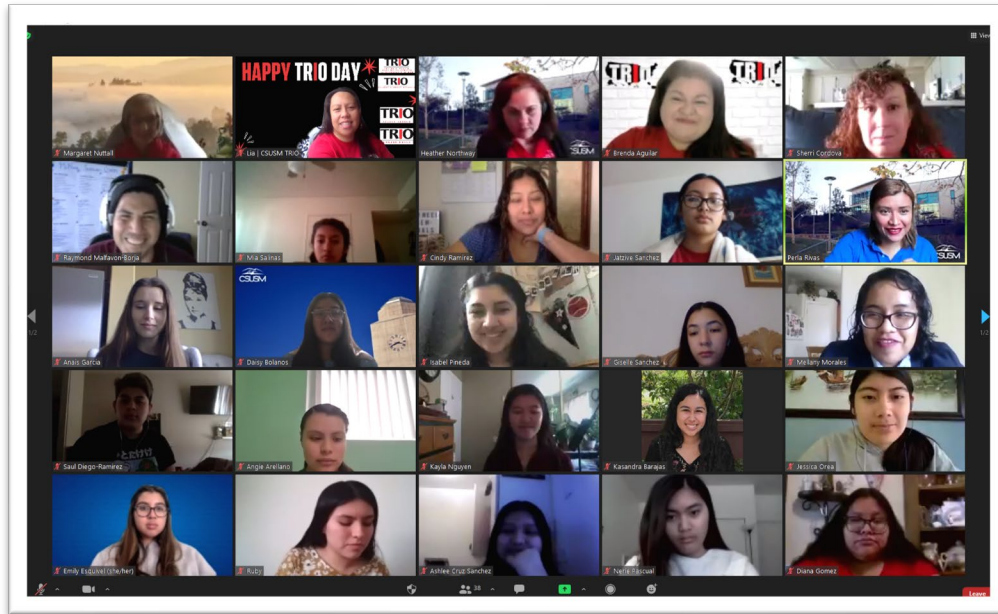
Mellany Morales graduated from CSUSM in May 2021 with a BA in History and a BA in Visual and Performing Arts.

Mellany's next goal is to become a teacher. To that end she is planning to enroll the on credential program at CSUSM.

Mellany has been highly active in the TRIO SSS program – she has participated in many of the events and encouraged her peers to join the program.

Congratulations Mellany

VIRTUAL TRIO NATIONAL DAY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE



This year's volunteer day was in the virtual mode. Students volunteers from TRIO Talent Search, Upward Bound, Student Support Services and McNair created online collages, greeting cards and support cards . The items were delivered to local senior centers and TRIO City Hospital, Oceanside. Well done TRIO family!

SPRING 2021 ONE-UNIT CLASS

Professor Moss led a virtual one-unit class this spring - Public Art in the Pandemic. The students studied public art in the pandemic around the world, the meaning and messages in the artwork (see below). The students had the opportunity to created their own murals.



“I really enjoyed this course, even though I was initially not very interested. I actually learned a great deal although we only met 3 times.”

“I really enjoyed this class and learned to stop and appreciate street art because its more than just graffiti, I also enjoyed the design a mural project.”

“Really liked the creative freedom for our murals.”

TRIOSSS GRADUATES ON PARADE MAY 2021

Our students celebrated their success at the Graduates On Parade Event



Spring 2021 DEAN'S LIST

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who have earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher in the Spring 2021 semester!

Zaina Aljayyousi	Cindy Gomez	David Murguia Cruz
Maria Altamirano Chavez	Dhayra Gomez Gutierrez	Elizabeth Nevoso
Jesus Alvarado	Maria Gonzalez	Eric Noriega
Sarai Alvarez Bolanos	Daniel Gonzalez Duenas	Zayla Paschall
Kassandra Barajas	Vania Griswold	Jessica Pena
Miriam Bastawrous	Eduardo Gutierrez	Rodolfo Peregrino
Cynthia Benitez Ascenci	Yesenia Hernandez	Josue Perez
Daisy Bolanos	Alexis Hernandez	Emilia Rangel Garcia
Lynette Carrillo	Wendy Hernandez	Tristan Riemersma
Celina Cazares	Gaspar Humerada	Teresa Rocha
Isai Cedillo	Lorena Jacobo	Davina Russell
Guadalupe Cruz	Rachael Jarrell	Mariam Salvador
Monica De La Rosa	Daniela Jasso	Daisy Santana
Melissa Diego	Itzel Jessup	Brandon Savon
Wendy Fabian Linares	Viviana Jimenez	Mary Smiljkovich
Cassandra Fuentes	Jennifer Lopez	Luz Sotelo
Saul Gallardo	Mireya Lugo	Alexis Vasquez
Anais Garcia	Anayeli Lujan Lopez	Cecilia Villa
Jeremie Garcia	Christina Mertens	Kelsey Wierenga
Julia Glorioso	Elizabeth Murguia	Lily Woods

CONGRATULATIONS to the following half-time/part-time students who have earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher in the Spring 2021 semester!

Kristina Friedley	Keanu Meyers	Tristan Riemersma
Valeria Garcia	Kimberly Palmer	Edmundo Villa